



# The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

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*Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:*

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021, Patronal Festival of St Peter**

## **Today's Readings:**

Acts 12:1-11; Matthew 16:13-19

## **Upcoming Services:**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

**8.00am BCP Communion at Nackington**

**6.00pm Choral Evensong at Lower Hardres**

*(No need to book but social distancing and face masks will still be required)*

**10.00am Songs of Praise at Bekesbourne**

*(please let Nicky Fry know if you wish to attend)*

## **Collect**

Almighty God, who inspired your apostle Saint Peter to confess Jesus as Christ and Son of the living God: build up your Church upon this rock, that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, your Son our Saviour Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## **Post Communion**

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Acts 12:1-11**

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard

him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

### **Matthew 16:13-19**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

## **Parish News**

### **Welcoming our new Curate**

Our Curate Miriam Bier Hinksman will be ordained by the Bishop of Dover in Canterbury Cathedral on 3rd July 2021 at 5.30pm. Sadly due to Covid restrictions we can't all attend to support her. Rev'd Estella will be attending. You can join the Livestream for the Ordination Service by using this link <https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/worship/online-worship/#evensong>

If you would like to send a welcome message or card to Miriam to congratulate her on her ordination please feel free to give it to Estella or pop it into the Vicarage before 3rd July and Estella will take these with her to give to Miriam on the day. Please do keep Miriam, James and their daughter Elisabeth in your prayers.

### **Volunteers needed for Sunday Communion Services at Bridge**

Readers - we need some more people to join our rota of people who are happy to give the bible readings in church each Sunday.

Prayers of Intercession - we also need some more people who would be happy to lead our prayers of intercession each week. There is a training workshop about leading prayers of intercession at Adisham Church on the morning of Saturday 10th July.

Full training and support can be given so do please get in touch with Evelyn or Estella if you think you would like to help.

### **Supporting our church financially**

If you would like to donate to the work of the church you can use our online giving at: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/50a9529f-4dc5-4e6e-a429-ce51883d637b>

or you can pop a cheque (payable to 'PCC Patrixbourne with Bridge') through the Vicarage door.

## Today's Final Hymn (outside hopefully)

Thy hand, O God, has guided  
Thy flock, from age to age;  
The wondrous tale is written,  
Full clear, on every page;  
Our fathers owned thy  
goodness,  
And we their deeds record;  
And both of this bear witness:  
One Church, one faith, one  
Lord.

Through many a day of  
darkness,  
Through many a scene of  
strife,  
The faithful few fought  
bravely,  
To guard the nation's life.  
Their Gospel of redemption,  
Sin pardoned, man restored,  
Was all in this enfolded:  
One Church, one faith, one  
Lord

And we, shall we be faithless?  
Shall hearts fail, hands hang  
down?  
Shall we evade the conflict,  
And cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels  
Some better thing is stored;  
We will maintain, unflinching,  
One church, one faith, one  
Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us,  
Nor leave thy work undone;  
With thy right hand to help us,  
The victory shall be won;  
And then, by men and angels,  
Thy name shall be adored,  
And this shall be their anthem:  
One Church, one faith, one  
Lord.

Basil Harwood (1859-1949)  
CCLI 509548

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